

EDUCATIONAL INNOVATOR—SR.  
JOEL READ RETIRES AS PRESIDENT OF ALVERNO COLLEGE

**HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2003*

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 22, 2003 the Milwaukee community will honor Sr. Joel Read for 35 years of distinctive and dedicated service to Alverno College.

A member of the School Sisters of St. Francis and President of Alverno College since 1968, under her leadership, Sr. Joel and Alverno College have gained national and international recognition for their innovation in education. Sr. Joel's commitment and hard work has led to the introduction of Alverno's ability-based curriculum, which has placed Alverno at the forefront of education as a liberal arts college.

Her efforts in this area have brought her high honors from other educators. Sr. Joel has been described by her colleagues as someone who has emerged as one of the country's most remarkable leaders in higher education. She is legendary in our community for her passionate spirit and steadfast approach to getting results.

So distinguished is her reputation that educational associations across the nation seek Sr. Joel's assistance. She has received numerous local and national awards and recognitions for her dedicated support to higher education, the advancement of women and the development of our communities. Awards and recognitions include: Anne Roe Award, Pope John XXIII Award, Morris T. Keeton Award, Sacajawea Award, Lifetime Leadership Award, Distinguished Service Award, and Outstanding Woman of Achievement—just to name a few.

Sr. Joel is actively involved in volunteering her time and talents to various organizations and causes. She is a founder of the Milwaukee Achiever Program, has served with the Goals for Milwaukee 2000 Task Force, the United Way of Greater Milwaukee, and the Mayor's Beautification Committee and was appointed by the Governor to the Wisconsin National and Community Service Board. Currently, she serves as a board member in several organizations, including the Greater Milwaukee Committee, Junior Achievement of Wisconsin, and the YMCA.

I congratulate Sr. Joel for 35 years of visionary leadership and devotion to Alverno College and to women in higher education. Her significant contributions have broken educational ground and have placed Alverno College on the map as a national and international leader in education. May God continue to bless her in her retirement, and as she takes on new challenges within the community.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 1894, TO PROHIBIT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DISCRIMINATORY PRECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT

**HON. EARL POMEROY**

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2003*

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, the earned income tax credit is an important program to assist low-income families and move them from welfare to work.

The IRS is proposing a precertification program for EITC unlike that applied to any other tax benefit program, or for that matter any other program. As proposed, the IRS's precertification program will have the consequence of excluding persons who clearly qualify for EITC benefits. This is because, as proposed, many of the precertification requirements simply cannot be met. As one example, marriage certificates are required in certain instances. In several states, however, the waiting period to receive this documentation may be years. It is for this reason that I am co-sponsoring H.R. 1894, introduced by Representative CHARLES RANGEL.

Because of my strong support for EITC, I also support both simplification of the EITC documentation process as well as fair and appropriate review of the program's eligibility and enforcement processes. This will guarantee that those persons who are eligible to receive the credit receive the benefits to which they are entitled, and that those persons who endeavor to take unfair advantage of the EITC are prevented from doing so. Fraud certainly cannot and will not be tolerated, but we also should not punish people who fairly qualify for this credit by making them provide documentation that they cannot acquire. I look forward to working with my colleagues and the Internal Revenue Service in ensuring that these dual aims are accomplished.

**PUBLIC HOUSING DRUG ELIMINATION**

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2003*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, today I offer the Public Housing Drug Elimination Act of 2003 on behalf of myself and 71 original co-sponsors.

We have been fighting to reauthorize this HUD program as well as appropriate money to the program for a long time. As a matter of fact, on July 10, 2002, I offered an amendment to the Housing Affordability Act for America, authorizing the Public Housing Drug Elimination Program (PHDEP) through 2005.

Despite the drug elimination program's widespread success and the bipartisan support, President Bush eliminated funding for the program in the Fiscal Year 2003 budget and has again zeroed out funding for the program in his Fiscal Year 2004 (FY04) budget. We must understand that programs like drug elimination ease the strain on public housing's capital improvement and maintenance funds. Pro-

grams like drug elimination protect the elderly, who compose one-third of all residents who live in public housing, working families and children. I believe there is more we can do to ensure decent living conditions for all Americans, and I'm sure all of my colleagues would agree.

The Public Housing Drug Elimination Program funded employment of security personnel, reimbursement of local law enforcement agencies for additional security, drug education and prevention; physical improvements designed to enhance security, and youth programs. In my own district, the Oakland Housing Authority funneled their money into five different areas. They created three Boys & Girls club programs on-site; the local Museum of Art which ran an after-school performing and visual arts program—serving forty at risk youth daily; the City of Oakland's Discover Center operated a program with PHDEP dollars called, "Science in the Hood," which taught hands-on general science, physics, and chemistry; and the Asian Community Mental Health center provided health, educational, and employment assistance and cultural services for Asian residents, filling a gap in community service.

The Public Housing Drug Elimination is a real tool to combat real bad actors from public housing, all while protecting youth and tenants. This program, unlike the one-strike policy (upheld in *U.S. HUD v. Rucker*), puts the power to change the community in the hands of the community, it's leadership, and public housing officials. Hand and hand, the drug elimination program and a modified eviction policy could help end the criminal activity that takes place in public housing.

Mr. Speaker, one-third of all residents who live in public housing are elderly. If we fail to at least authorize this program we will in fact allow thousands of elderly people to live in fear and potentially unsafe environments. We are the richest country in the world. Housing is a basic human right. We can do more to ensure decent living conditions for all Americans and we can do more to make public housing safe.

Today I offer the Public Housing Drug Elimination Act of 2003 to authorize this program and allow appropriators to commit such sums as they deem necessary. I ask that my colleagues join me in support of this important program and this bill.

**RECOGNIZING LUIS TIANT FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GAME OF BASEBALL AND FOR HIS CONTINUED INVOLVEMENT IN THE BOSTON LITTLE LEAGUE COMMUNITY**

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2003*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Red Sox pitching legend Luis Tiant for the contributions he has made to the game of baseball and for his continued involvement in the Boston Little League community. On Saturday, May 3, 2003, the Luis Tiant Field at Peters Park in the South End of Boston was dedicated to this sports icon in recognition of all that he has contributed to the game.